

File: H_H_Hall_1858_10_27.doc

OCR April 2010 by Ian Bracher from an undated typescript

Checked against MS by IB 12 April 2010

Note: the date is given only as 27 October; the year is assumed to be 1858

Henry Hastings Hall to W S Hall, 27 October [1858]

Phillips's Flat,

Cathcart

Wednesday 27th Oct^r

My dear brother,

I write to redeem the pledge I gave on your departure, rather than on account of anything particularly brilliant having transpired since that period. However, the rush looks even more healthy than it did last week; one or more first rate holes is bottomed every day, but of course there are very many duffers — we have just bottomed our *fourth* rather more than our share at so young a rush. I believe we shall get a little out of Farrar's Claim but only a ninth (9th) falls to my lot. We are driving the one Jim and I sank but I fear to little purpose. Foster came over yesterday and will remove his place immediately; a good street is forming. We have moved to the back of Farrar's. People are flocking in fast. Do not advise any diggers to come who have not a little means — there is no chance unless a man is prepared for a month's bad luck The "shepherds" are a mile ahead of last paying claim. Remember me to [?Wane] if you see him. Very little of your work offers at present I have only seen one load of dirt carted — a machine is going down, near my claim that was jumped. I am happy to say that was duffer ground. I am going in to Ararat today to see the specifications for road work and "grubbing" — there is some £40,000 to be expended on the roads connected with Ararat. A Prospecting Company is being formed at the Swan to search for gold, if we were there we should be considered acquisitions among so many green horns. To save trouble you may as well forward this to Sister Sarah — she will then know where we are; in haste,

Your affecte brother

H H Hall